



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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## COMMENT DEADLINES SET FOR *NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING* RELATING TO DIVERSE AND INDEPENDENT PROGRAMMING

MB Docket No. 16-41

**Comment Date: December 27, 2016**  
**Reply Comment Date: January 23, 2017**

On September 29, 2016, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in MB Docket No. 16-41 that aims to foster consumer choice and access to diverse programming on television by prohibiting the use of “unconditional” most favored nation provisions and “unreasonable” alternative distribution method provisions in pay-TV programming distribution contracts that impede carriage of independent and diverse programming. The Commission set deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 60 and 90 days, respectively, after publication of the *NPRM* in the Federal Register. A summary of the *NPRM* was published in the Federal Register on October 25, 2016.<sup>1</sup> Thus, comments must be submitted no later than December 27, 2016. Reply comments must be submitted no later than January 23, 2017. Commenters must follow the filing instructions provided in paragraph 44 of the *NPRM*.<sup>2</sup> The *NPRM* is also available on the Commission’s website.<sup>3</sup>

**People with Disabilities:** To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Raelynn Remy or Calisha Myers, Policy Division, Media Bureau, 202-418-2120.

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<sup>1</sup> See <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/10/25/2016-25568/promoting-the-availability-of-diverse-and-independent-sources-of-video-programming>.

<sup>2</sup> See *Promoting the Availability of Diverse and Independent Sources of Video Programming*, MB Docket No. 16-41, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 16-129 (Sept. 29, 2016), para. 44.

<sup>3</sup> See [http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily\\_Releases/Daily\\_Business/2016/db0929/FCC-16-129A1.pdf](http://transition.fcc.gov/Daily_Releases/Daily_Business/2016/db0929/FCC-16-129A1.pdf).